



United States  
National Commission on  
Libraries and Information Science

**NOTES**  
**NCLIS CONFERENCE CALL**  
**July 25, 1997 - 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.**

***Participants:*** Jeanne Simon Chairperson), Mary Furlong, Martha Gould, Joan Challinor, José-Marie Griffiths (Member-Designee), Frank Lucchino, Gary Sudduth, Joel Valdez, and Robert Willard.

***Staff:*** Jane Williams, Kim Miller, and John Lorenz. Notes prepared by Barbara Whiteleather

**NCLIS Appointments**

The President will appoint Rebecca Bingham as a Member of NCLIS. Ms. Bingham is retired director, Library Media Services, Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, KY. Ms. Bingham has served as President of the American Association of School Librarians, President of the Kentucky Librarians Association, and as a Member of the Advisory Committee for the first White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

Pending completion of paperwork, the White House intends to reappoint (for the term 1997-2002) Chairperson Simon, Vice Chair Gould, and Commissioner Sudduth.

**NCLIS Appropriation**

The full House Appropriations Committee and Senate Subcommittee approved NCLIS appropriation at \$1 million; over the million dollar mark for the first time in NCLIS' history.

**NCLIS Executive Director Search Committee**

Martha Gould, Co-Chair, NCLIS Executive Director Search Committee, reported the Committee met in Washington on July 17 and 18 to review the 42 applications received. Through an extensive process, the Committee narrowed the list to twelve candidates. The Committee is impressed with the candidates whom they consider outstanding individuals with national and international standing and with publishing and communication skills. In addition, several individuals possess strong library and information services backgrounds.

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The Committee will interview the final candidates September 22-23 at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, VA (a hotel near National Airport). The 'short' list will then be presented to the full Commission in preparation for the planned October 28-29 interviews and business meeting.

With Kim Miller's assistance, letters have been sent out:

(1) notifying the 12 candidates of their status, (2) requesting references, and (3) acknowledging all applicants.

### NCLIS Assessment of Standards for Electronic Government Information Products

Phase I, *the Framework and Draft Statement of Work*, has been completed by Alan Inouye and Marjory Blumenthal of the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board. Phase II requires a *Request for Proposal* (RFP) and a subsequent contract for data collection. The revised Phase III covers the assessment/standards issues for the Federal Depository Library Program. The new Phase IV concerns broader public policy issues, in keeping with the original NCLIS/National Academy of Sciences' discussions. Phase IV will require NCLIS programmatic funds and/or funding from other sources.

Commissioner Willard reported on the effort to revise Title 44. A bill is to be introduced and expected to be passed in September. "Whether or not Title 44 is amended, the NCLIS study should go forward. . . The NCLIS project has the potential of becoming a major landmark in the development of information policies," he stated.

### NCLIS Meetings, FY 1998

- Jane Williams submitted a proposal to return to quarterly NCLIS meetings, beginning with Fiscal Year 1998.
- Jane Williams reported that Diane Frankel proposed that the annual NCLIS/NMSB meeting be held in September to coincide with the cycle of LSTA guidelines, applications, evaluations, and awards.
- Mary Furlong suggested meeting in Seattle with the Gates Library Foundation and Chris Hedricks of Microsoft.
- Mary Furlong also suggested meeting at the Library of Congress to gain insight on the global digitization of library resources. [This may be a topic at the upcoming IFLA Conference. If so, attending Commissioners could report on what they learn.]
- At Frank Lucchino's suggestion, as a rule, NCLIS meetings will be held on Thursday and Friday. He also suggested that NCLIS meetings be held throughout the United States.
- Robert Willard said that NCLIS should meet in DC when ALA annual conferences are held in Washington, DC.

To accommodate Frank Lucchino's schedule, the interviews will be held on 10/28 and selection of executive director and business meeting will be 10/29.

Jane Williams offered to revise the proposed meeting schedule based upon some of the above recommendations.

### NCLIS Audit

Commissioners received copies of the NCLIS audit report along with a detailed staff memo outlining specific concerns and suggested recommendations. Commissioners' comments are requested.

### IMLS

Jane Williams reminded Commissioners that the deadline for comments on the LSTA guidelines for National Leadership Grants is August 18.

IMLS is moving the Office of Library Programs staff to the Old Post Office Building.

### Library Statistics Program

John Lorenz reported that the 1997 Library and Information Services Policy Forum, September 15-16, will focus on *Library Services and Technology Act, State Grant Program: Data Needs and Implications for Measuring Performance and Reporting Results*.

### Staff Appreciation

The Members acknowledged Jane Williams for her 'seamless transition as Acting Executive Director'. Chairperson Simon stated, "Jane has a beautiful manner of getting the work done with very little help, and we are grateful."

Members of the Search Committee also acknowledged and expressed appreciation to Kim Miller for work provided to the Search Committee.

July 31, 1997